



Office Use Only
Received October 24 2025

Aquaculture Renewal Application

Licence/Lease No: 1042

Licence/lease holder:

Applicant: Innovative Fishery Products Inc. Contact Person: Marc Blinn

Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks Number: [Redacted]

Revenue Canada Business Number: [Redacted]

Telephone No. (Work): ⁹⁰² 837-5163 (Home): ⁹⁰² 769-3330 (Cell): [Redacted]

Fax No.: ⁹⁰² 837-5165 E-mail: [Redacted]

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 125, Belliveau Cove, N.S. Postal Code: B0W 1J0

Civic Address: 3569 Hwy #1, Saint Bernard, N.S. Postal Code: B0W 1J0

Application Materials

A complete application includes the following:

- Renewal fee (payable to Minister of Finance) according to Section 77 of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations for Nova Scotia made under Section 64, Chapter 25 of the Acts of 1996, *the Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act*
- Application Form
- Development Plan according to application
- Copy of up-to-date Shareholder's Register which sets out the shareholdings of the company (if applicable)

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an aquaculture application, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture ("Fisheries and Aquaculture") will disclose application information to other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application.

Submit completed applications to:

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Aquaculture Division
1575 Lake Road, Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0
E-mail: aquaculture@novascotia.ca



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In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture may disclose application information – not including, however, personal or business confidential information – on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The personal and business confidential information collected as part of an aquaculture application will only be used or disclosed by Fisheries and Aquaculture for the purpose of deciding on the application.

All application information collected is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (“FOIPOP”) and will only be used or disclosed in accordance with FOIPOP.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and accept the above statements regarding the collection, use, and disclosure of the information provided on this form.

Signature of Applicant

[Redacted Signature]

Date

Oct 24/2025

Signature of Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture Designate

[Redacted Signature]

Date

October 24, 2025



Re [REDACTED]

INNOVATIVE FISHERY PRODUCTS Inc.

Head Office: P.O. Box 125 Belliveau's Cove, NS, B0W 1J0

Phone: (902) 837 5163

Fax: (902) 837 5165

Good morning

We are sending in our application in for AQ#1042

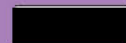
I ask that the department use the development plan that was submitted by [REDACTED] 4512617 Nova Scotia Limited-100% owned subsidiary of Scotian Harvest Inc) for this site AQ#1042.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]
Marc Dinn

2025

AQ #1042 (HILLSBURN) DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Innovative Fishery Products Inc

8/18/2025

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1. SECTION 1: THE OPTIMUM USE OF MARINE RESOURCES

[Innovative Fishery Products Inc.](#) (IFP) located in St. Bernard, Digby County Nova Scotia has been in business since 1988 and is a seafarmer primarily involved in clam harvesting, processing and exporting. IFP harvests Softshell Clams, Bar Clams and Little Neck Clams or Quahogs from 8000 acres of aquaculture lease areas which are licensed to IFP by the Province of Nova Scotia. Softshell clams are harvested throughout the province while Quahog are harvested on the beaches of St. Mary's Bay in Digby County. IFP also participates in the scallop fishery and other seafood imports and exports. IFP is the largest inshore clam company in Nova Scotia.

IFP has entered into an agreement to be purchased in September 2025 as a wholly owned subsidiary of [Scotia Harvest Inc.](#), a vertically integrated seafood company located in Seabrook, Nova Scotia right next to The World-Famous Scallop Port of Digby, Nova Scotia. Their focus is on wild-caught marine species managed by the Department of Fisheries with primary fisheries being Oceans Full Bay scallop, Scotia-Fundy haddock, Redfish and Canada Atlantic halibut.

An assignment of a marine aquaculture licence to new owners requires approval by NSDFA according to the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations for Nova Scotia made under Section 64, Chapter 25 of the Acts of 1996, the Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act. Components of this application and approval process to assign the license include the submission of this Development Plan for AQ #1042 to NSDFA and a 30-day public comment period before the license can be assigned to the new owners.

IFP has invested considerable time and effort in determining the viability of developing this site along with their shellfish hatchery to provide seed annually to the enterprise (AQ #1185). AQ #1042 is licensed for commercial oyster cultivation and analysis of the 98.5-hectare site shows the potential to grow up to 10,000,000 oysters annually.

Upon commencing the sale of the company no further business development to add oyster cultivation or farming to their product offerings has been conducted. Under new ownership, the company intends to revisit and update the work that has been done to determine if they should proceed with investing time and resources into oyster cultivation and farming.

Due to high salinity and cold temperatures as well as challenges with water depths, tidal currents and tidal rise associated with the Bay of Fundy, oysters nor oyster farming have been present in Annapolis Basin where IFP and Bear River First Nations have oyster leases. Mortality, growth rate, density, sourcing seed and over-wintering are all matters that must be cost-effectively addressed before expanding the oyster farm.

Mooring lines and anchoring are a key technical challenge to overcome in the Annapolis Basin due to deep waters, tidal rise and fall and strong currents. Oyster seed will also need be cultured and conditioned annually. To develop this site to be the optimum use of this marine resource, a reliable source of oyster seed, conditioned to grow and thrive in this challenging environment must be secured. Initial trials in Annapolis Basin by Bear River First Nations have shown that mortality and growth rate are acceptable to support commercial operations.

Upon commencing the sale of the company no further business development to add oyster cultivation or farming to their product offerings has been conducted. Under new ownership, the company intends to revisit and update the work that has been done to determine if they should proceed with investing time and resources into oyster cultivation and farming. Activities to date include:

• [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

2. SECTION 2: THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROPOSED OPERATION TO COMMUNITY AND PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2.1. PRODUCTION PLAN

The start-up of an oyster farm follows a predictable cycle over the first 3-4 years of operation before it has mature oysters to harvest and generate revenues. Over this time considerable investment in capital and start-up costs is required annually until the site reaches its targeted annual production.

These include staffing and training, licensing, mooring lines and anchors, buoys and navigation aids, monitoring equipment, oyster cages, work boats, and processing barges and/or facilities. The source of new oyster seed annually must be secured, and in the case of IFP, this is to be cultivated at its shellfish hatchery under license AQ #1185. A target to produce seed and start the oyster farm at AQ #1042 in 2027 is being worked towards.

Due to high salinity and cold temperatures as well as challenges with tidal currents and tidal rise associated with the Bay of Fundy, oysters nor oyster farming have been present in Annapolis Basin where IFP and [REDACTED] have oyster leases under development. Mortality, growth rate, density, sourcing seed and over-wintering are all matters that must be cost-effectively addressed before expanding the oyster farm.

Mooring lines and anchoring are a key technical challenge to overcome, and the lease holders collaborated on sharing their research and experience. Oyster seed will also need be cultured and conditioned annually. Work to date includes:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

LOCATION

The 98.5-hectare lease (Figures 1 and 2) is located in the Annapolis Basin adjacent to other oyster leases, clam harvesting areas licensed to IFP and an Atlantic salmon farm owned by [REDACTED]. The site is located offshore of the communities of Deep Brook and Cornwallis. The Town and Port of Digby is also in the Basin and serves as the access point for the oyster farm. The site is approximately a 45-minute commute by the farm's workboat from the wharf in Digby.

The Port of Digby is also home to a large lobster, groundfish, and scallop fishery. IFP has a scallop quota and vessel operating from this location. Scotia Harvest has an extensive fleet based here and is also the home of their state-of-the-art processing facilities. IFPS processing facilities are located 40 kilometers away in Belliveau's Cove.

The site is in relatively deep water (20 feet) with an additional 28 feet at high tide. Other environmental conditions including currents, waves, wind speeds, and temperature have been measured and inform the engineering requirements for the mooring and anchoring system.

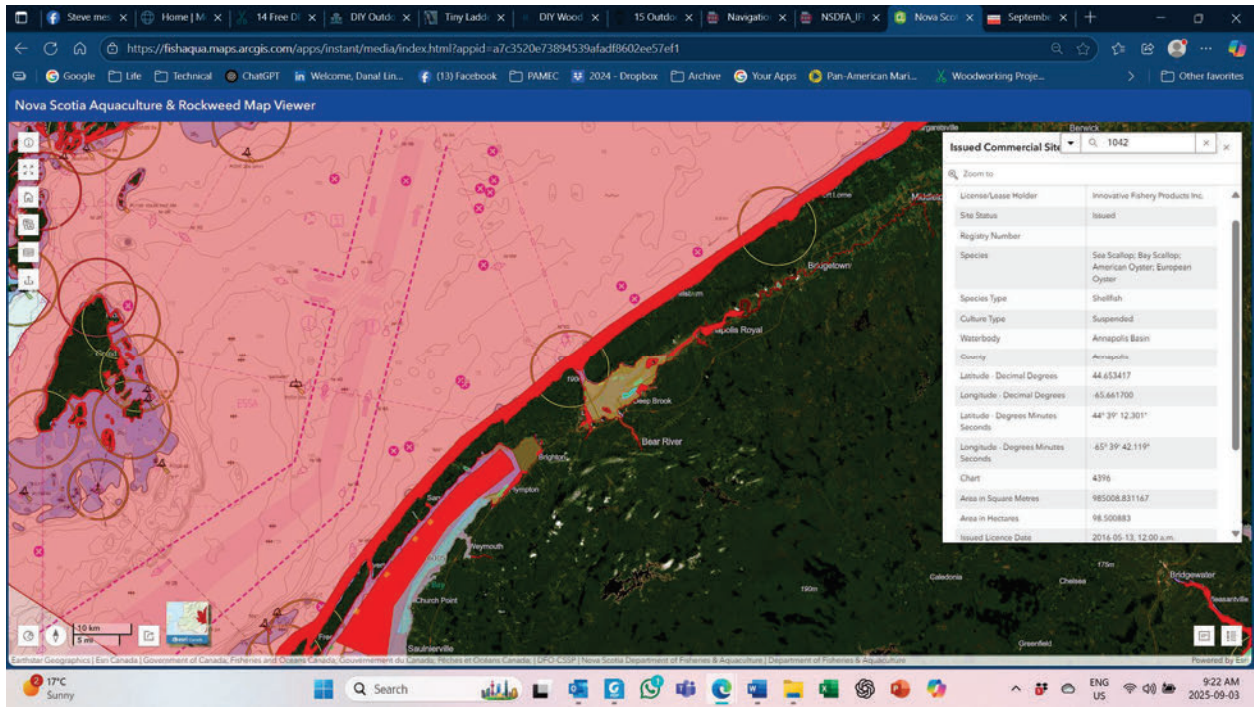


Figure 1: AQ #1042 Details

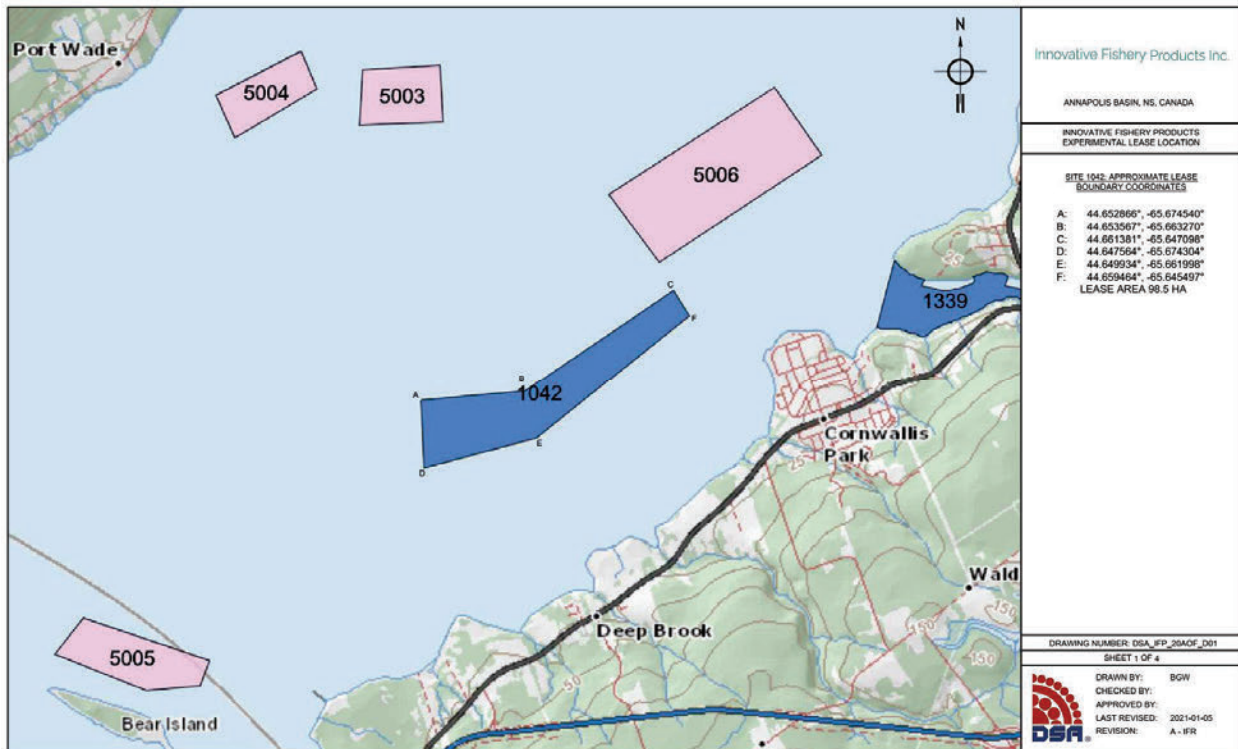


Figure 2: AQ #1042

SITE DESIGN & ENGINEERING

_____ was retained to complete a) Site Layout Drawings, b) an Environmental Conditions Analysis, and c) Mooring Concept Evaluations. Site plan (Figure 4) highlights include 245 mooring lines with 50 cages per line holding 1245 cages producing 10,000,000 million oysters per year. Approximately 160 anchors and 500 buoys will be needed for the entire site.

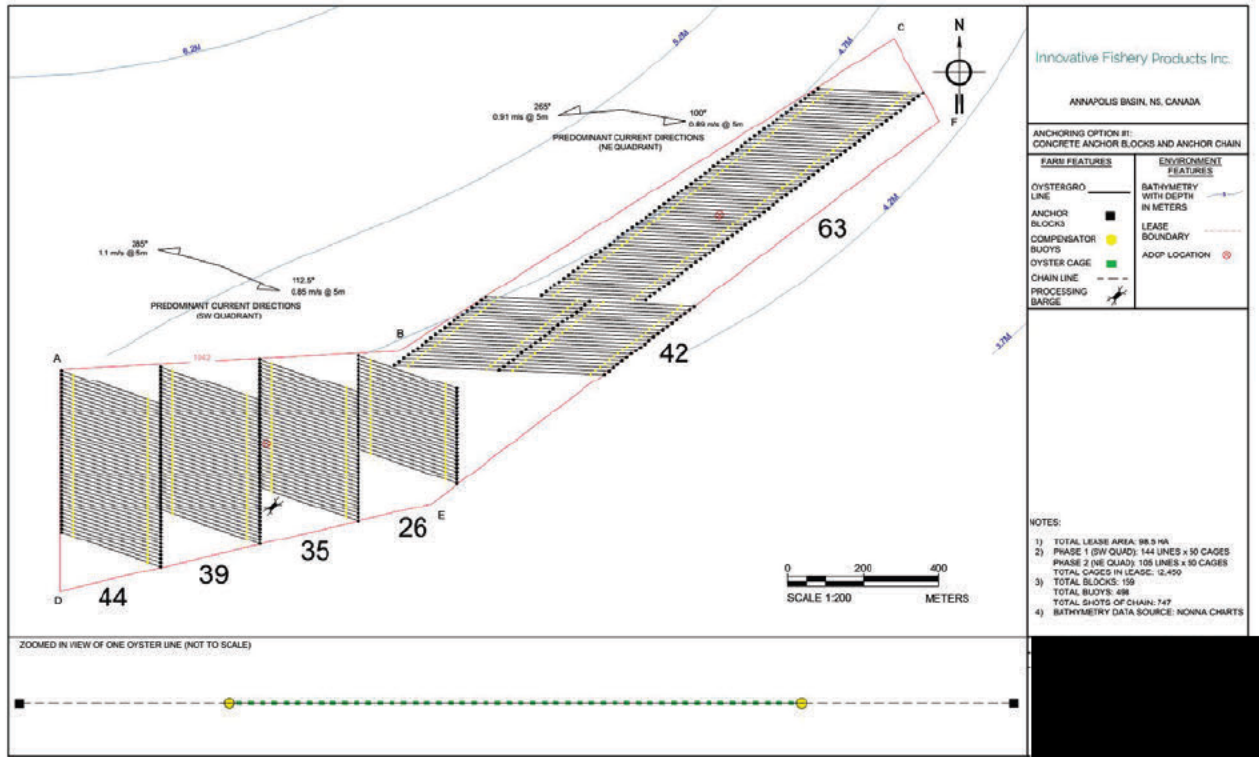


Figure 3: AQ #1042 Site Plan

SUSPENDED AQUACULTURE

The site is licensed for suspended aquaculture, a preferred method of oyster farming in the Atlantic Provinces. Oyster cages float at the surface and are attached to a mooring line with anchors held at the surface with large buoys.

IFP has been working with _____ used extensively by oyster farmers in Atlantic Canada. Their _____ (Figures 5 and 6) have been chosen to meet the harsher conditions of the Annapolis Basin.



Figure 4: Typical oyster farm with Rows of Suspended [REDACTED]

Developed in collaboration with marine biologists, commercial oystermen, designers and equipment manufacturers, [REDACTED] a proven performer, delivering all the efficiency, convenience, strength and durability that a successful farming operation relies on.

- Suspends product at optimum feeding depth
- Promotes continuous feeding for faster growth
- Maximizes yield
- Minimizes labour
- Designed to control secondary spat, predators and sediments
- Built to withstand severe weather conditions
- Easy to sink and retrieve
- Cleaner, natural process
- Minimizes mortality losses
- Environment & community friendly
- Tested around the world in a variety of climatic conditions at water depths of 2 to 1,500 ft.

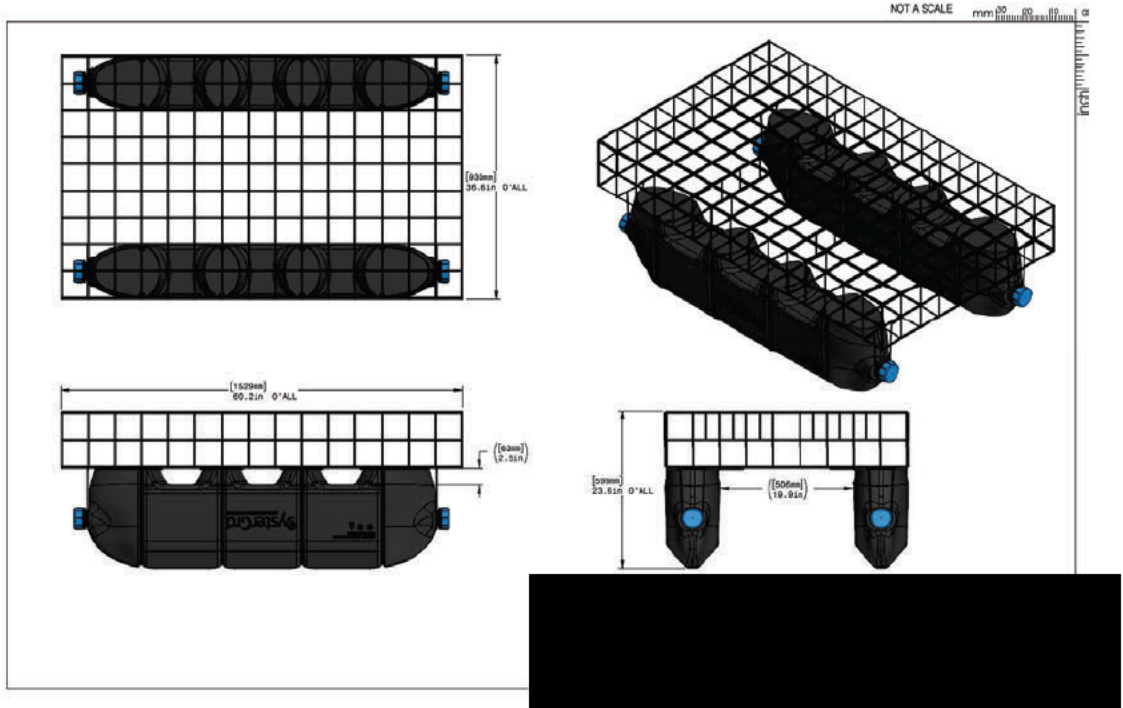


Figure 5: XXXXXXXXXX Specifications

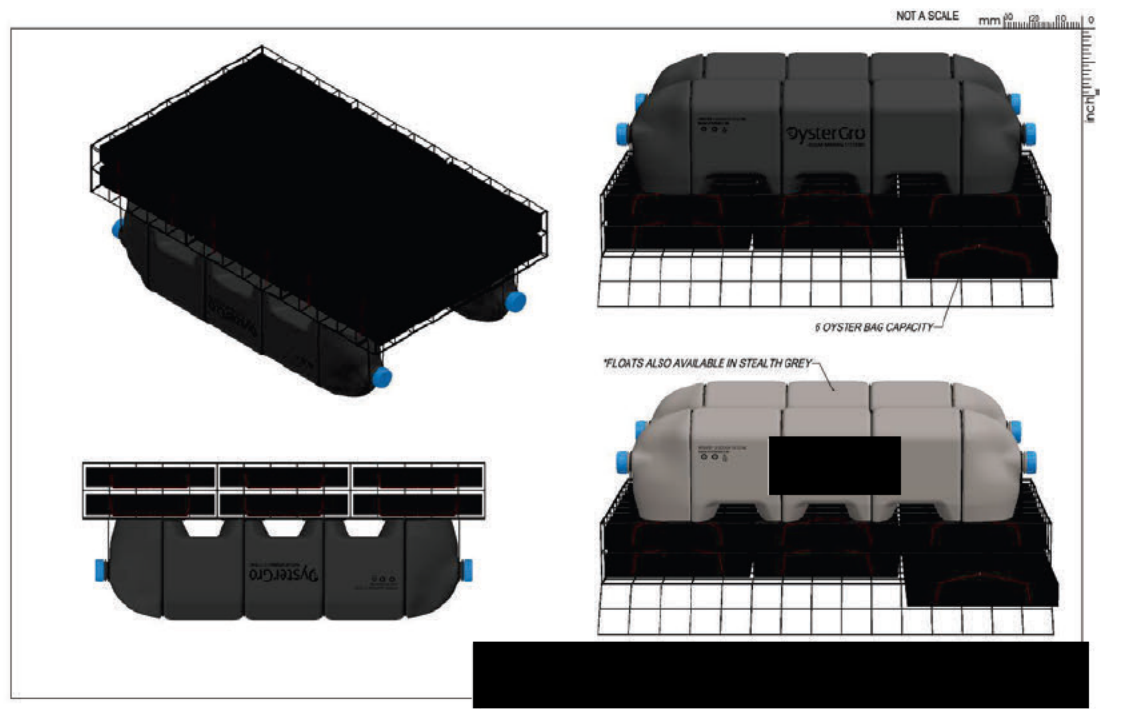


Figure 6: XXXXXXXXXX Specifications

OYSTER FARM STARTUP AND DEVELOPMENT

The site is assessed at being able to hold up to [REDACTED] The scale and scope of such a project is ambitious, and costly.

IFP will minimize risk by starting with 50 cages and expanding annually until a total of [REDACTED] oysters are on site.

The start-up of an oyster farm follows a predictable cycle over the first 3-4 years of operation before it has mature oysters to harvest and generate revenues. Over this time considerable investment in capital and start-up costs is required annually until the site reaches its targeted annual production.

Each year, new oyster seeds are placed in mesh bags inside a floating cage and placed in the water for an average of 3 years to reach maturity. A common method in the Atlantic Provinces is to use rows of suspended cages such as shown in Figures 4, 5 & 6.

OYSTER FARM TIMELINE & MILESTONES

YEAR 1 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER

- Seed grown in Shellfish Hatchery AQ 1185
- Install Navigation Markings, Sensors and Monitoring Equipment
- Moor and anchor 50 suspended cages
- 6 mesh bags per cage
- 300 5-10mm oyster seed per bag or 1800 per cage
- Routine maintenance and care of oysters including water sampling, antifouling, tumbling, grading and overwintering

Total Oysters

[REDACTED]

Total Cages

[REDACTED]

YEAR 2

- New Seed grown for Yr1 oysters, moor and anchor 50 cages, 1800 per cage
- 50 cages of Yr2 oysters divided, moor and anchor an additional 50 Cages, - ~900 -per cage
- Routine maintenance and care of oysters including water sampling, antifouling, tumbling, grading and overwintering

Total Oysters on Farm

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Total Cages



YEAR 3

- New Seed grown for Yr1 oysters, moor and anchor [redacted]
- 50 cages of Yr2 oysters divided, moor and anchor an additional [redacted]
- 100 cages of Yr3 oysters divided, moor and anchor an additional [redacted]
- Routine maintenance and care of oysters including water sampling, antifouling, tumbling, grading and overwintering

Total Oysters on Farm



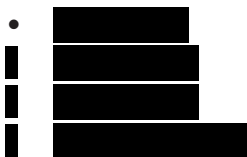
Total Cages



YEAR 4 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER

- Harvest & Process Year 4 Oysters
- New Seed grown for Yr 1 oysters, moor and anchor [redacted]
- 50 cages of Yr 2 oysters divided, moor and anchor an additional [redacted]
- 100 cages of Yr 3 oysters divided, moor and anchor an additional [redacted]
- Routine maintenance and care of oysters including water sampling, antifouling, tumbling, grading and overwintering

Total Oysters on Farm



Total Oysters to Market

- [redacted]

Total Cages

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

OPERATIONS

A typical oyster farm requires a workboat and oyster processing facilities onsite (Figure 7). Activities include antifouling of cages by flipping the cages on a regular basis to expose them to the sun. Oysters are tumbled, cleaned, graded and sorted and returned to the water or to market depending on their size. Operations have minimal impact on the environment and uses very little fuel in day-to-day activities during the active season from May to November each year.

Installation and maintenance of anchors, buoys and mooring lines may require additional vessels or barges.



Figure 7: Solar-powered processing barge and workboats at [REDACTED] in Yarmouth County, NS

2.2. INFRASTRUCTURE

No infrastructure additions or changes are required to support the request at this time to assign the lease to the new owners of IFP (e.g. buildings, wharves, transportation, onsite equipment, etc.)

2.3. SERVICES AND SUPPLIERS

There are no service and/or supplier additions or changes required to support the request nor any change in the scale of the requirements on an annual basis, and where they will be sourced.

2.4. EMPLOYMENT

Historically, IFP directly employs 65 people during clam harvesting and processing season from April to November, depending on winter weather conditions. Facilities include Processing Areas, Q&A Lab, a Shellfish Hatchery, and a Depuration Facility as well as trucks for delivering product locally and to the US.

The expected number of direct employees on a yearly basis over the next five years – both local and Provincial, if this request is fulfilled, is expected to remain constant with historical employment numbers at IFP.

The company is managed by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), a Chief Financial Officer (CFO), and a Chief Operating Officer (COO). Technical positions include Lab Technician, Office Administrator, and Receptionist/Data Entry.

The Plant Manager oversees the depuration and processing facilities and the Shucking and Processing Crew. Master Harvesters oversee independent harvesters permitted by IFP to harvest on their lease sites.

The start-up of the oyster farm at AQ #1042 will require additional persons to be added to the team. Although most oyster farms are active from May to November, it is our goal to have these workers be fulltime by participating in work at the shellfish hatchery, processing orders and fulfilling them in the Winter.

Typical jobs for an oyster farm include the following duties and responsibilities include:

- a) Farm Manager: 1) Build, construct, troubleshoot, and maintain farm production systems, equipment and boats 2) Manage marine operations including equipment installation/operation and overall shellfish production Coordinate with hatchery and nursery management to achieve production goals 3) Maintain accurate and organized daily records of production, monitoring, and farm activities 4) Develop, innovate, and refine production techniques 5) Ensure compliance with licencing and regulatory requirements 6) Supervise farm staff, ensuring a positive work environment that is safe and productive
- b) Aquaculture Technicians: 1) Growth and Health Management: Responsible for managing the growth and health of oyster crops, ensuring they are well-maintained and healthy. 2) Equipment Maintenance: Maintaining equipment used in the farming process, ensuring it is in good working condition. 3) Laboratory Work: Performing laboratory work to study and improve oyster farming techniques. 4) Processing: Processing oysters for commercial use, including sorting, grading, and packaging.
- c) Boat Crew: 1) Accurately measure and fill seed into our harvest bags and deploy them at our leases. 2) Harvest market sized oysters and restock inventory using appropriate equipment and techniques. 3) Monitor oyster growth and health 4) Work in both the farm and boat settings across multiple locations 5) Raise and sink gear in accordance with antifouling and overwintering activities. 6) Aid in repairing gear as needed both on land and on water. 7) Work to continuously improve operations with respect to quality, safety, and inventory.

2.5. OTHER ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND PROVINCE

The oyster farm will employ a variety of supply chain services and supply; the majority sourced in Nova Scotia. These include the purchase of vessels, barges, solar energy systems, buoys, anchors, mooring lines, sensors and monitoring equipment.

3. SECTION 3: FISHERIES ACTIVITIES IN THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURAL OPERATION

3.1 IMPACTS ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

No changes to impacts on fisheries activities in the public waters surrounding the aquaculture operation (commercial, recreational, food, social and ceremonial) will occur if the request is fulfilled.

The Annapolis Basin and the Port of Digby are very active in aquaculture and the fishery sector which hosts a fleet engaged in lobster, scallop and groundfish harvesting. AQ #1042 is adjacent to several oyster leases held by [REDACTED] who have been issued an experimental license and have been successful in producing oysters. [REDACTED] has an Atlantic Salmon farm some distance away at Digby Gut. IFP holds several clam licenses in the Basin and harvests clams from beaches at low tide.

4. SECTION 4: OCEANOGRAPHIC AND BIOPHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PUBLIC WATERS

4.1. OCEANOGRAPHIC ENVIRONMENT

No major events have been experienced by this site since its development due to oceanographic and biophysical characteristics of the site. (e.g. super-chill incidents, ice damage, storm damage, etc.). This shellfish site is classified as Approved.

4.2. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

The fulfillment of the request is not expected to impact the benthic environment.

4.3. SITE DESIGN

The oceanographic and biophysical characteristics of the waters of the location have been accounted for through an extensive study of the Environmental Conditions using a variety of data sources and measurement equipment - conducted [REDACTED]. These include an assessment of wind conditions, wave heights, and tidal currents. These variables informed the need for a robust mooring and anchoring system which resulted in the current site configuration and design (See Figure 3 above) and production plan.

5. SECTION 5: THE OTHER USERS OF THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURAL OPERATION

5.1. IMPACTS TO OTHER USERS INCLUDING WILDLIFE

The site is visible from shore although this is a rural area with few homes facing the lease area. It is expected that the yellow buoys and navigation lights will be faintly visible in the distance. Neither the workboat nor solar-powered processing barge are expected to create any significant noise for other users including wildlife.

The site would effectively be an exclusion zone, however as per NPA approval, a corridor through the lease is to be marked with buoys to enable users of the public waters surrounding the site to pass through the lease and not have to navigate around the permitter. The site will be clearly marked on all navigation charts.

Suspended cages are often used as perches by birds such as sea cormorants. Seals have also been known to rest atop the cages. This activity can have a harmful impact on the operation due to fouling from these animals.

There has been no change in knowledge of local species at risk since the current lease/license was approved. The gear also provides shelter for a variety of sea creatures including fish, crabs and eels that enjoy the habitat of suspended cages.

5.2. IMPACTS BY OTHER USERS INCLUDING WILDLIFE

The use of suspended cages as perches for birds is a common issue for oyster farmers and can be managed with deterrents. [REDACTED] provides the [REDACTED] which has a proven track record of drastically reducing bird infestation problems.

The [REDACTED] is a self-launching system that creates an ever-changing aerial threat that silently keeps birds away. It varies its manifestation by altering its flight pattern, speed and height depending on the strength of the wind; therefore, birds never become accustomed to the [REDACTED]

This commercial-grade product consists of telescopic flexible seven-metre pole with a specially designed kite attached to the pole on a durable plaited line which can be fixed in the field, mounted to a building or integrated into a specially designed stabilized floating system.

6. SECTION 6: THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF NAVIGATION

6.1. NAVIGATION PROTECTION ACT (NPA) APPROVAL

The site has received a Navigation Protection Act approval (Registry number: 2472) which details the markings and various buoys required to safely mark the perimeter of the site and limit unintentional interaction with other users of the water (See Figure 8). The current plan is to mark only a portion of the lease to contain the active production area and expand these markings as the farm expands.

Terms and conditions of the approval include:

1. Buoy markings to be installed and maintained as per Transport Canada conditions outlined on the enclosed Site-specific Marking Plan at all times aquaculture gear is in the water.
2. The perimeter of the site is to be marked with a minimum of 0.6-meter diameter yellow cautionary buoys (or NPP approved equivalent) placed at a maximum interval of 200 meters (as per the attached Site-specific Marking Plan). A 100-mm band of yellow retro reflective tape is to be placed on these buoys near the top and around the circumference of the buoys. All buoys are to be maintained in an upright position with a minimum of 0.6 meters above water surface level.
3. Buoys indicated with light and radar reflector on the attached Site-specific Marking Plan are to be equipped with a yellow flashing light visible over a horizontal arc of 360 degrees with a flash characteristic of having of 0.5 second flash; 3.5 second eclipse with a minimum range of one (1) nautical mile and be equipped with a radar reflector. A 100-mm band of yellow retro reflective tape is to be on all 0.6-meter buoys near the top and around the circumference of the buoys. All navigation light buoys are to be maintained in an upright position with a minimum height of 0.6 meters above the water level.
4. The navigation channel established in the centre of the site, is to be marked with a minimum of 0.4-meter diameter yellow cautionary intermediate buoys (or NPP approved equivalent) placed at a maximum interval of 100 meters (as per the attached marking plan).
5. All vessels navigating the waterway must be allowed access through or around the work site at all times during construction and decommissioning and must be assisted as necessary.
6. At all times, all anchorage systems, gear and associated work(s), including anchors, are to be contained within the limits of the leased area and not to extend beyond the lease boundaries.
7. In the event that any materials or equipment drift out of the lease boundaries for any reason, it is to be marked immediately with a flashing cautionary light and radar reflector and removed from the waterway or returned within the lease boundaries as soon as possible. The Canadian Coast Guard, Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) Sydney at (902) 564-7751 or toll-free 1-800-686-8676 is to be advised in order to allow for appropriate Notices to Shipping/Mariners action.

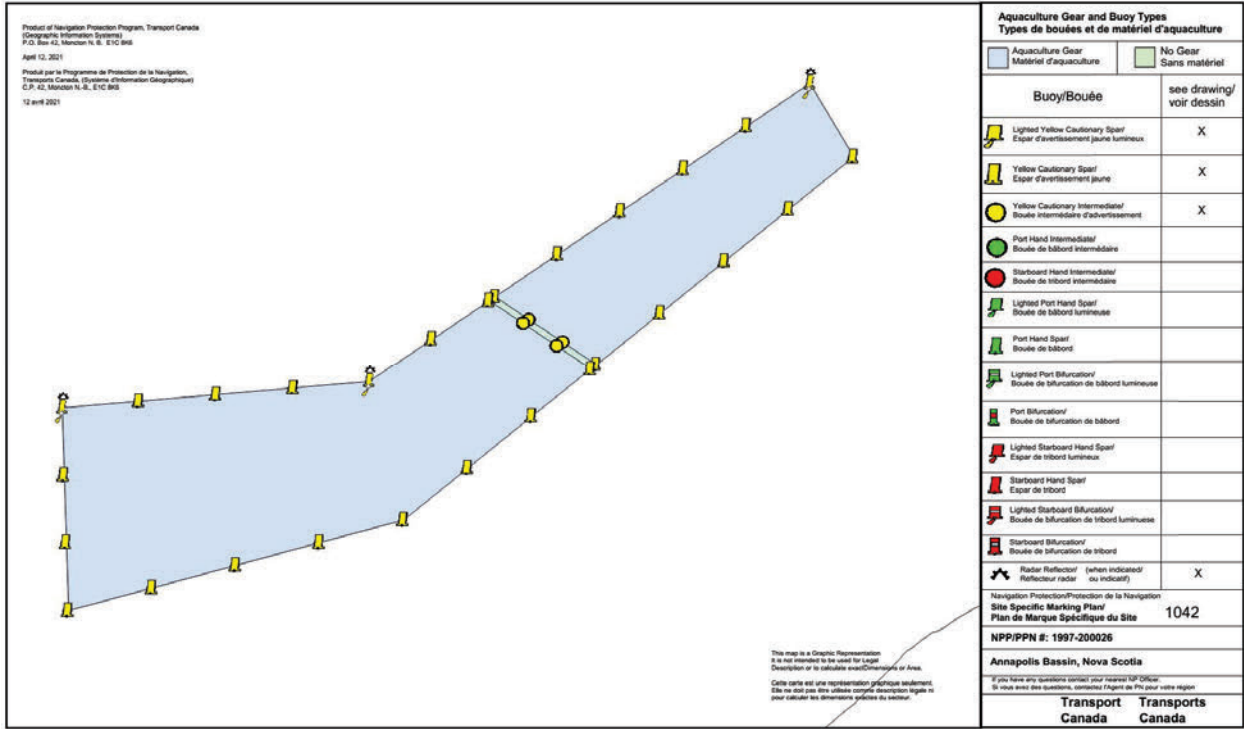


Figure 8: NPA Site Markings

7. SECTION 7: THE SUSTAINABILITY OF WILD SALMON

7.1. IDENTIFICATION OF LOCAL SALMON POPULATIONS

There have been no changes in the status of salmon run rivers in the region since the current lease/license was approved. The [Centre for Marine Applied Research | Assessing Wild Salmon Rivers in Nova Scotia](#) (Figure 9) identifies salmon in the area. The site is located between the mouths of the Bear and Moose Rivers and the Annapolis River empties into the Annapolis Basin.

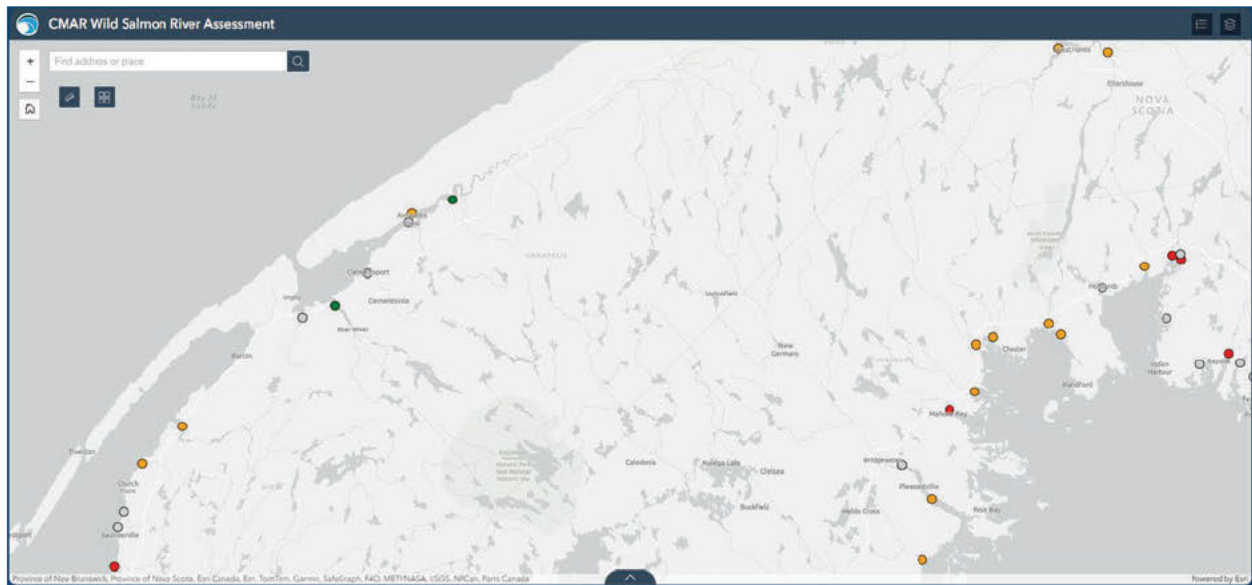


Figure 9: CMAR Wild Salmon River Assessment

7.2. SUPPORT OF THE SUSTAINABILITY OF WILD SALMON

Due to the distance from the rivers that have salmon, as well as the nature of an oyster farm with suspended culture, the changes are not expected to affect salmon populations.

8. SECTION 8: THE NUMBER AND PRODUCTIVITY OF OTHER AQUACULTURE SITES IN THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURAL LOCATION

8.1. INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER AQUACULTURE OPERATIONS

The Annapolis Basin is home to a number of aquaculture sites (Figure 10) including experimental licenses for oyster farming held by ██████████ clam harvesting areas licensed to IFP as well as an Atlantic salmon farm operated by ██████████. The development of AQ #1042 will not have any significant interactions with other aquaculture operations in the area. Complete details of these aquaculture operations is available at the [Nova Scotia Aquaculture and Rockweed Map Viewer](#).

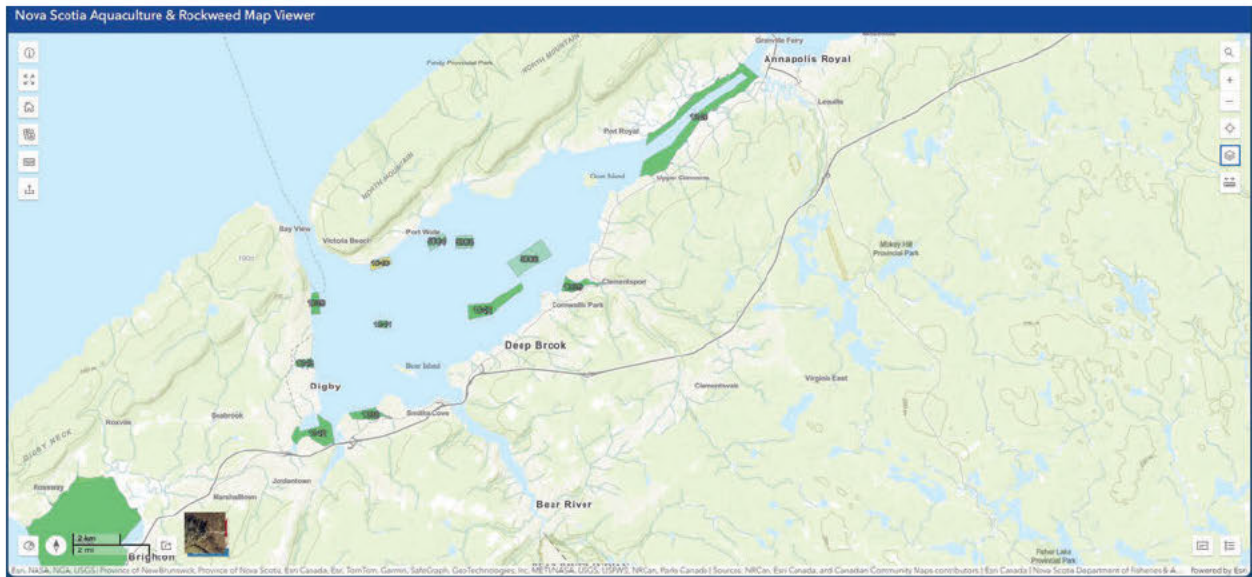
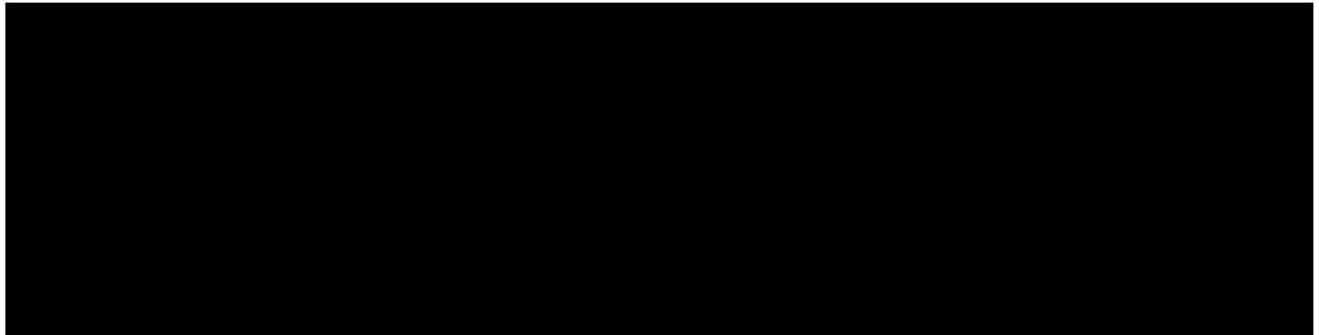


Figure 10: Annapolis Basin Aquaculture Sites

9. SECTION 9: DEVELOPMENT VIABILITY

9.1. FINANCIAL ABILITY



9.2. TECHNICAL ABILITY

The experienced team at IFP will remain in place with the change of ownership. Longstanding IFP owner and COO [REDACTED] will continue in this role to insure a smooth transition and transfer of knowledge, technical abilities, processes and relationships. Office management, lab technician, plant supervisors, master harvesters and processing employees will remain.

Senior management from Scotian Harvest will play an active role in business and financial management and include CEO [REDACTED] and CFO [REDACTED]. Together they currently manage Scotia Harvest Inc. which employs over 125 persons. [REDACTED] has experience in aquaculture as well through involvement in the family business [REDACTED].

Scotia Harvest's fleet of vessels harvests both scallop and groundfish in Atlantic Canadian waters year-round. Combined with their new 46,000 square foot state-of-the-art Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) certified facility and skilled production staff who diligently process and pack to various specifications, allows Scotia Harvest to supply their clients with products that consistently meet or exceed their expectations. Scotia Harvest owns and operates multiple trucks and trailers that help collect raw materials to bring them to the plant. They also produce and deliver ice to their own and other fishing vessels in the area.

Although the majority of our harvesting operations focus on Sea Scallop (*Placopecten magellanicus*), Redfish (*Sebastes Fasciatus/Mentella*) and Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*), we do not limit our production and sales to those species. Our multispecies groundfish vessels will also occasionally land Pollock/Saithe (*Pollachius virens*), Atlantic Halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*), Atlantic Cod (*Gadus morhua*), White Hake (*Urophycis tenuis*), Winter Flounder (*Pseudopleuronectes americanus*), Witch Flounder (*Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*), Yellowtail Flounder (*Limanda ferruginea*), American Plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*), Silver Hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) and Monkfish (*Lophius americanus*) throughout the year.

The start-up of the oyster farm will require additional human resources which may include an Oyster Farm Manager, Aquaculture Technicians and Boat Crew. Duties and responsibilities include:

Farm Manager: 1) Build, construct, troubleshoot, and maintain farm production systems, equipment and boats 2) Manage marine operations including equipment installation/operation and overall shellfish production Coordinate with hatchery and nursery management to achieve production goals 3) Maintain accurate and organized daily records of production, monitoring, and farm activities 4) Develop, innovate, and refine production techniques 5)

Ensure compliance with licencing and regulatory requirements 6) Supervise farm staff, ensuring a positive work environment that is safe and productive

Aquaculture Technicians: 1) Growth and Health Management: Responsible for managing the growth and health of oyster crops, ensuring they are well-maintained and healthy. 2) Equipment Maintenance: Maintaining equipment used in the farming process, ensuring it is in good working condition. 3) Laboratory Work: Performing laboratory work to study and improve oyster farming techniques. 4) Processing: Processing oysters for commercial use, including sorting, grading, and packaging.

Boat Crew: 1) Accurately measure and fill seed into our harvest bags and deploy them at our leases. 2) Harvest market sized oysters and restock inventory using appropriate equipment and techniques. 3) Monitor oyster growth and health 4) Work in both the farm and boat settings across multiple locations 5) Raise and sink gear in accordance with antifouling and overwintering activities. 6) Aid in repairing gear as needed both on land and on water. 7) Work to continuously improve operations with respect to quality, safety, and inventory.

9.3. COMPLIANCE HISTORY

Scotia Harvest has no previous aquaculture operations, however [REDACTED] has 30 year's experience dealing with aquaculture operations including development plans and farm management plans at [REDACTED]. While they haven't had any major enforcement issues, they have engaged many regulatory bodies over the years to review boundaries, track oyster collections, grow outs, invasive species, etc.

In terms of Scotia Harvests fishery operations that are managed, they are and always have been in compliance with all DFO licencing and quota fishing regulations. Scotia Harvest regularly has to review license conditions and fish within the regulations put forth by DFO. They maintain CFIA Safe Food for Canadians licenses and have to report on those regularly. Scotia Harvest also has NSDFA fish buying and processing licenses that require the creation of reports on regularly.

These compliance requirements are supported by a dedicated office team that upkeepes these licenses and permits to make sure that the company follows all regulatory requirements from provincial and federal agencies.